

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DECLASSIFIED  
Department of State

ACTION COPY

PERMANENT RECORD COPY

47-48

Action  
EUR

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Control: 11155

Rec'd: AUGUST 15 11 1961

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/C/000008

REVIEWED BY *[Signature]*DATE *start 16*FOI or ADJ. EXT. DATE  
15 AUG. 1961ENCLOSURE EXISTING ☒DECLASSIFIED ☒ RELEASABLE ☒RELEASE DENIED ☐

PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

FROM: BERLIN

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 212, AUGUST 16,

PRIORITY

ACTION DEPARTMENT 212, BONN PRIORITY 185, INFORMATION LONDON 124,  
PARIS 130, MOSCOW 119, POLAD USAREUR 114

PARIS FOR EMB, USRO STOESSEL, AND MCGUIRE.

FOLLOWING IS TRANSLATION OF LETTER FROM SOV COMMANDANT TO  
COMMANDANT OF AMERICAN SECTOR OF BERLIN DELIVERED 2230 HOURS  
AUG 15.

BEGIN TEXT

IN REFERENCE TO YOUR LETTER OF 3 AUG 61, I WAS INSTRUCTED  
TO DECLARE THE FOLLOWING:

THE ATTEMPTS OF THE COMMANDANT OF THE AMERICAN GARRISON  
IN WEST BERLIN TO INTERFERE WITH THE MEASURES OF THE GOVERNMENT  
OF THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, WHICH ARE WITHIN THE EXCLUSIVE  
COMPETENCE OF THE GDR AND DESIGNED TO DEFEND THE LEGITIMATE  
INTERESTS OF THE REPUBLIC AND ITS CITIZENS, ARE ENTIRELY  
INAPPROPRIATE.

IF YOU INTEND WITH THAT LETTER TO EXTEND TO DEMOCRATIC  
THE CAPITAL OF THE SOVEREIGN GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC  
THE OUTDATED OCCUPATION ORDER WHICH THE AMERICAN AUTHORITIES  
ARE PRESERVING IN WEST BERLIN, THEN SUCH PRETENSIONS CANNOT BE  
TAKEN SERIOUSLY.

AS IS WELL KNOWN TO THE AMERICAN COMMANDANT, THE COMMAND

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

REPRODUCTION FROM THIS COPY IS  
PROHIBITED UNLESS "UNCLASSIFIED"  
NOTATION OF ACTION TAKEN

• This copy must be returned to RM/central files with notation of action taken.

ACTION	ASSIGNED TO <i>EUR:GER</i>	ACTION TAKEN <i>[Signature]</i>
NAME OF OFFICER	<i>[Signature]</i>	
OFFICE SYMBOL	<i>A. P. Rep</i>	

7-12-61

92

BEST AVAILABLE COPY



DECLASSIFIED

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

-2- 212, AUGUST 16, 1 AM, FROM BERLIN

OF THE SOVIET FORCES DOES NOT INTERFERE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF THE GDR AND ITS CAPITAL AND IT IS ABSURD TO EXPECT THAT IT WILL COOPERATE IN THE ATTEMPTS AT SUCH INTERFERENCE BY AGENCIES OF ANY KIND OF OTHER GOVERNMENTS. OUR POSITION, WHICH IN ITS DETAILS IS BASED ON OFFICIAL DECLARATIONS OF THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT, PAYS STRICT RESPECT TO THE RIGHTS OF THE SOVEREIGN GERMAN STATE - THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC - AND IS IN DIRECT CONTRAST TO THE APPROACH WHICH YOU HAVE ADOPTED.

OF COURSE, IT MAKES NO DIFFERENCE THAT IN YOUR LETTER YOU ATTEMPT TO POSE AS SOME KIND OF DEFENDER OF THE SO-CALLED "GRENZGAENGER" ATTEMPTING TO WIN POPULARITY AMONG THE WEST BERLIN POPULATION BY UNDIGNIFIED METHODS AND BY DISTORTION OF FACTS.

NO DOUBT IT MUST BE KNOWN TO YOU THAT IN WEST BERLIN UNDER THE COVER OF THE OCCUPATION AUTHORITIES, SPECULATION WITH THE ARTIFICIALLY ESTABLISHED RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CURRENCIES IS THRIVING. ALTHOUGH THIS SPECULATION IS DESIGNED TO UNDERMINE THE NATIONAL ECONOMY OF THE GDR, YOUR LETTER ONLY INDICATES THAT YOU DESIRE TO MAINTAIN THE SORT OF UNDERMINING ACTIVITIES AND PROCEDURES WHICH SHOULD HAVE BEEN PUT TO AN END A LONG TIME AGO.

AS TO THE "DETERIORATION OF THE SITUATION IN BERLIN" OF WHICH YOU WRITE, THIS ACTUALLY EXISTS AS AN EXCLUSIVE RESULT OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THOSE, WHO BY LEANING ON THE STILL PRESERVED OCCUPATION REGIME OF WEST BERLIN, ARE USING WEST BERLIN FOR INTOLERABLE PROVOCATIONS AND UNDERMINING ACTIVITIES DIRECTED AGAINST THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC AND OTHER SOCIALIST COUNTRIES.

IN REGARD TO YOUR REMARKS ON THE AGREEMENT OF 20 JUNE 1949, PERMIT ME TO REFER YOU TO THE NOTE FROM THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE USA, DATED 26 SEPTEMBER 1960. THIS NOTE WAS PUBLISHED BY THE PRESS AND IT CONTAINS THE NECESSARY EXPLANATIONS ON THAT POINT.

END TEXT

BLB

LIGHTNER

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

DECLASSIFIED  
OFFICIAL USE ONLY

930